CLAIMS

1.   An apparatus for assembling content addressable video, comprising:

storage means for storing a plurality of frames of video data in storage locations having addresses, each frame defining
5   a video image having a content for display;

means, coupled with the storage means, for associating tags with frames of video data in the plurality, the tags indicating the contents of the video images defined by the associated frames;

10   processing means, coupled to the means for associating, for assembling a content video image in response to the tags, the content video image including positions for corresponding frames of video data in the plurality; and

means, coupled to the processing means, for associating
15   positions in the content video image with addresses of storage locations storing corresponding frames of video data.

2.   The apparatus of claim 1, further including:
means for selecting a position in the content video image;
means, coupled with the means for selecting and the means for associating positions, for accessing the frames of video data
5   in the storage means in response to selected positions.

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3.   An apparatus for generating content addressable video, comprising:

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     means for generating a content video image representative of an organization of content addressable video, the content

5   video image having positions within the content video image corresponding to desired content of video images to be displayed;

     control means, coupled to the means for generating, for generating control signals indicating a content for a video image in response to positions within the content video image;

10   controllable means, responsive to the control signals, for generating frames of video data, each frame defining a video image having the content indicated by the control signals; and

     processing means, coupled to the controllable means and the control means, for associating frames of video data generated by

15   the controllable means with positions in the content video image.

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4.   The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the controllable means comprises a robot mounted video camera.

5.   The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the processing means comprises:

     storage means, coupled to the controllable means, for storing frames of video data generated by the controllable means

5   in storage locations having addresses; and

means coupled to the controllable means and the control means, for associating the address of each frame of video data with a position in the content video image.

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6.   The apparatus of claim 5, further including:

means for selecting a position in the content video image;

means, coupled with the means for selecting and the means for associating, for accessing the frames of video data in the storage means in response to selected positions.

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7.   A method for assembling content addressable video, comprising:

storing, in an addressable memory, a plurality of frames of video data in storage locations having addresses, each frame defining a video image having a content for display;

associating tags with frames of video data in the plurality, the tags indicating the contents of the video images defined by the associated frames;

assembling a content video image in response to the tags, the content video image including positions indicating the content of corresponding frames of video data in the plurality; and

associating with data processing means the positions in the content video image with addresses of storage locations storing corresponding frames of video data.

8.   The method of claim 7, further including:

selecting, with a user input device, a position in the content video image;

accessing, with data processing means, the frames of video
5   data in the storage means in response to a selected position.

9.   The method of claim 7, further including:

storing in a cache memory a subset of the plurality of frames, the subset including frames having content indicated by at least a portion of the content video image.

10.   A method for generating content addressable video, comprising:

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displaying a content video image representative of an organization of content addressable video, the content video
5   image having positions within the content video image corresponding to desired content of video images to be displayed;

selecting with data processing means positions within the content video image;

generating control signals indicating a content for a video
10   image in response to the selected positions within the content video image;

generating frames of video data in response to the control signals, each frame defining a video image having the content indicated by the control signals; and

15   associating with data processing means the generated frames of video data with positions in the content video image.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of generating frames comprises:

controlling a robot mounted video camera in response to the control signals.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of associating comprises:

storing generated frames of video data in storage locations having addresses; and

5   associating the address of each frame of video data with a position in the content video image.

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13. The method of claim 12 further including:

selecting with a user input device a position in the content video image;

accessing the frames of video data in the storage means in

5   response to selected positions.